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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/517,512	12/10/2004	Michel Gielis	P/4309-84	1297

7590
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01/11/2008

EXAMINER

HOLLOWAY III, EDWIN C

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2612

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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01/11/2008

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/517,512

Applicant(s)

GIELIS, MICHEL

Examiner

Edwin C. Holloway, III

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2612

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 15 October 2007.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 14-26 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 14-26 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/ are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) ✓
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

EXAMINER'S RESPONSE

1. In response to applicant's amendment filed 10-15-07, all the amendments to the specification and claims have been entered. Claims 14-26 are pending. The examiner has considered the new presentation of claims and applicant's arguments in view of the disclosure and the present state of the prior art. And it is the examiner's position that the claims are unpatentable for the reasons set forth in this Office action:

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102 & 103

2. The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

3. Claims 14-15 and 19 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Pulverenti (US 4532509) in combination with Brunius (US006204760B1).

Pulverenti discloses a monitor and control system with central unit (10) monitoring peripherals (FS) over wired network (27,28,29) to provide security or anomaly configuration (error/abnormality condition indication) responsive to context codes (address/status) corresponding to reference conditions in tables. See cols. 14 and 26. An open circuit indication is not expressly disclosed, but would have been an obvious logic signal output corresponding to opposite of short circuit in view of

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well known negative true logic and common security alarm systems being tripped by a break or open circuit.

Brunius discloses an analogous art communication system with a main controller 12 polling a plurality of control units 14. If an alarm or anomaly condition is sensed, a notification is made over a telephone line to a remote service. See figs. 1-2 and paragraph bridging cols. 5-6. The telephone line is a separate loop with signaling by open/close of the loop.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have included in Pulverenti the separate loop of Brunius to provide notification to a remote location over a separate loop.

4. Claim 18 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Pulverenti (US 4532509) and Brunius (US006204760B1) as applied above and further in view of Waterhouse (US005532465A).

Waterhouse discloses an analogous art communication system with power over the communication lines (14-1) and masters 12 reading slave labels 15 to determine position. See figs. 1, 6 and cols. 4-6.

Regarding claim 18 it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have included in Pulverenti power over the communication system

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would of Waterhouse so that separate powering is not required.

5. Claims 16-17 and 20-24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Pulverenti (US 4532509) and Brunius (US006204760B1) as applied above and further in view of Skalski (US005274203A).

Skalski discloses an analogous art communication system with primary and secondary processors communicating with multiple read heads and counters to provide redundant position sensing to increase safety. See figs. 1, 6 and cols. 4-6.

Regarding claims 16-17, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have included in Pulverenti plural controllers of Skaski for redundancy to increase safety. Regarding claims 21-24, label reader would have been obvious in view of Skalski to determine position suggested by the position sensing in Pulverenti.

6. Claims 25-26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Pulverenti (US 4532509), Brunius (US006204760B1) and Skalski (US005274203A) as applied above and further in view of Persson (US 4086519).

Regarding claims 25-26 Hall effect sensors and magnetized tracks would have been obvious in view of Persson as a precise manner to encode position.

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Response to Arguments

7. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 14-26 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

The IDS has been considered.

Conclusion

8. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Dan (US 3707708) discloses alarm communication by opening a closed phone loop.

9. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event,

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however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

CONTACT INFORMATION


Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Edwin C. Holloway, III whose telephone number is (571) 272-3058. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F from 9:00 to 5:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Brian Zimmerman, can be reached on (571) 272-3059.

The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

EH
1/7/08
(571) 272-3058.


EDWIN C. HOLLOWAY, III
PRIMARY EXAMINER
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